TUESDAY, DECEMBER 3, 1872.

Amusements To-Day. Ranih's Theatre-Romeo and Juliet.

Bowery Theatre - Letter; of Life.

Dan Bryant's Minetrells - Twoly-third street.

Fifth Avenue Theatre - Merry Wiccoef Windows.

Grand Opera House-Felly.

Niblo's Garden—Leo and Letos. Dlymple Theatre—Lydis Thompson Troops. P. T. Barnum's Great Bhow—Day and Egening. ft. James's Theatre—San Francisco Minatrals. telawar Hall-Stanley's Lectures. Tony Paster's Opera House - Dunderberk in a Frs. Malinee tolon Square, Theatre - Agnes. Theatre Comique-Afres

Vallack's-Our American Courin. Vood's Museum-On Hand. Matine

Terms of The Sun. ner year, te mail subscribers,
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T menty region to one addition.
Fifty explication one addition.

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rates at the up-town advertisement offices 54% West Thirty-second street, junction of Broadway and Sixth svenue, and 308 West Twenty-third street, opposite Grand Opera House, and on the east side at 511 Grand street, near East Broadway, from S A. M. to S:30 P.M.

The Message.

The message submitted to Congress yesterday by the President is a very commonplace document, with very few features that will attract attention or excite discussion. Perhaps it is not strange that it is so. If the theory of the President and his supporters is entirely true that everything is going along as smoothly as could be expected or hoped in the affairs of the Government, there is certainly no necessity for anything more than a businesslike statement of the condition of the departments in the President's communication to Congress. It seems to have been for the most part prepared by the heads of the several departments whose accompanying reports are epitomized in it. Its most noticeable feature is the constancy and consistency with which the President approves and urges every measure that looks toward consolidation of power in the central Government, such as the granting of subsidies, the adoption of the postal telegraph system, the interference with State Governments in enforcement acts, &c.

The message opens with an expression of thankfulness for peace and prosperity at home and abroad, the only exception to which, the recent devastating fire in Boston, receives a passing allusion, with a remark upon the gratifying fact that the citizens of Boston are rallying under their misfortunes in a manner similar to their fellow citizens of Chicago under a like calamity. The President then enters upon the proper business of the message, beginning with the Geneva tribunal of arbitration and the settlement of the Alabama claims and the San Juan boundary question. The decision of these two points of dispute between this country and Great Britain removes all causes of difference between the two countries, and leaves us for the first time in the history of the United States as a nation without a question of disputed boundary between our territory and the possessions of Great Britain on this continent. The services of Mr. ADAMS at the Geneva tribunal, and of Minister BAN-CROFT in the San Juan negotiations, are gratefully appreciated, and the prompt action of her Majesty's Government in removing her troops from the disputed territory is acknowledged. The appointment by Congress of a board of commissioners to distribute the Alabama award among the claimants is recommended, as is also the appointment of a commission to act jointly with one to be named by her Majesty Queen VICTORIA to designate by suitable monuments the boundaries fixed

in the San Juan settlement. Further legislation to bring into operation the articles of the Treaty of Washington of May, 1871, relating to the fisheries and to other matters touching the relations of the United States toward the British North American possessions is recommended.

Having so disposed of our relations with Great Britain, the President says: "With France, our earliest ally, Russia, the constant and steady friend of the United States, Germany, with whose Government and people we have so many causes of friendship and so many common sympathies, and the other powers of Europe, our relations are maintained on the most

To aid American exhibitors at the International Exposition, to be held at Vienna next year, an appropriation is recommended, and that the Secretary of the Navy be authorized to fit up two naval vessels to transport articles for exhibition from this country. The propriety of inviting the International Statistical Congress to meet in this country in 1876 is likewise suggested.

The death of President JUAREZ, of the Mexican Republic, is appropriately announced, and an additional appropriation recommended to enable the commission appointed by this Government to investigate the outrages on the Texan border to pursue their researches.

Considerable space is given to the con sideration of affairs in Cuba, and the situa tion is said to be unchanged from a year ago, the insurgents having gaine I no advantages, and having no greater prospects of ultimate success, while Spain, on the other hand, has not succeeded in repressing the insurrection. The continuance of the strife is attributed to the institution of playery, and it is mentioned with regret that many citizens of the United States hold slaves in Cuba "in defiance of the spirit of our own laws." Such legislation as may be proper to denounce, and if not prevent, at least discourage American citizens from holding property in slaves, is recommended.

Our relations with the Central and South American Republics are represented to be friendly, although Venezuela has made no further payments on account of the awards under the convention of April, 1866, and the attention of Congress is called to the subject.

An appropriation is recommended for the support of four American youths in the official families of our Ministers to China and Japan to lease the language and act as interpreters.

It is recomm ended that the provision

tressed seamen in foreign countries be extended in behalf of all American citizens in distress abroad.

The condition of the Treasury is set forth at length, showing a total reduction of the debt since March 1, 1869, of \$363,696,999.87. The President doubts the practicability of any further reduction in taxation. At all events, he recommends as a measure of justice to the mation's creditors that no more legislation be had upon the subject until sufficient time has elapsed to prove that it can be done and still leave enough revenue to meet current expenses, pay interest, &c.

Upon the important subject of specie payments he only says: "The preserva-tion of our national credit is of the highest importance; next in importance to this comes a solemn duty to provide a national currency of fixed, unvarying value as compared with gold, and as soon as practicable, having due regard for the interests of the debtor class and the vicissitudes of trade and commerce, convertible into gold at par." This is as round and as smooth as the utterance of the Philadelphia platform

on the same subject. And means as much. The operations of the War Department, the improvements in rivers and harbors, the reports of the signal corps, &c., are referred to at length, and favorable attention is invited to the recommendations of the Secretary of War on a variety of subjects, from the adoption of a specific code of penalties to the increase of the Academy

On the matter of internal improvements the President comes out strong. In view of the fact that production increases more rapidly than the means of transportation, he conceives it to be the duty of Government to provide carriage, to dig canals, subsidize railroads, &c., and discharge other functions of a paternal Government. Among the enterprises to which he invites the attention of Congress are one to connect the Mississippi Valley with the Atlantic at Charleston, S. C. and Savannah, Ga., by water by the way of the Ohio and Tennessee rivers, and canals and slack water navigation to the Savanuah and Ocmulgee rivers; and one for an extension of the Kanawha and James River Canal to the Ohio, and by extension of the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal. He is not prepared, he says, to recommend Government aid to these enterprises, "until t is clearly shown that they are not only of national interest, but that when completed they will be of a value commensurate with their cost." While on this subject he refers to the importance of a ship canal around Niagara Falls on the American side, and to the feasibility not only of connecting the Mississippi with tide water on the Atlantic, but "of an almost continuous land-locked navigation from Maine

The message urges the modification of the franking privilege, to "correct its glaring and costly abuses," and recommends the appointment of a commission to consider the best method of acquiring title to all the telegraph lines in the country with a view to the adoption of the postal telegraph, although he thinks it is not probable that the subject can be disposed of at this session. Only three lines of ocean steamers, he says, with a tinge of melancholy, are subsidized now at the mere trifle of \$725,000 per annum, and he thinks they should be treated more liberally, and a new subsidy be granted for a line between Panama and the western South American ports. This is his method for recovering the carrying trade, which has fallen off even during the last year, and he believes an "expenditure of \$5,000,000 per annum for the next five years, if it would restore to us our proportion of the carrying trade of the world, would be profita-

bly expended." ragraph is devoted to the " less and lawless men" against whom the Ku-Klux laws were aimed. He has hopes for a cessation of these troubles, and proposes to pardon the Ku-Klux prisoners whenever good reasons for clemency are shown.

The Indian policy has been successful and will be continued. In all the Territories, except Utah, affairs are satisfactory. Congress is urged to pass a law to secure peace and extinguish polygamy. Liberal appropriations are recommended for the District of Columbia-a brief recommendation, but there's a great deal of money in it.

The message closes with a paragraph on the civil service. So far as he is concerned he believes the country is safe in that regard. During his term he proposes to "so apply the rules as to secure the greatest possible reform in the civil service of the Government," but he adds-and it is the only humorous passage in the document-"it will require the direct action of Congress to render the enforcement of the system binding upon my successors.'

It is a long message. Outside of the ordinary routine its features are subsidies, postage telegraph, ship canals, no reduction of taxation, and in all directions increased appropriations.

Nonsense and Sense.

The Tribune of yesterday argues in favor of the absurd proposition that the Presidential electors who have just been chosen to vote for HORACE GREELEY should give their votes to U. S. GRANT. " For the sake of the South," says the Tribune, "for the sake of the whole country, in the hope of the reforms which Cincinnati demanded. and of the non-partisan Administration which the support of all the electors would deserve and impose, we suggest what we believe to be the legitimate deduction from Mr. GREELEY's own latest teachings-the

easting of his electoral votes for Grant." It is evident that the author of this silly counsel has never understood that any principles were at issue in the recent can rass, and has not believed the spasmodic denunciations of Republican corruption and misgovernment which have from time

to time flowed from his pen. This writer has the presumption to affirm that Mr. GREELEY would have given the same advice. The enemies of that great man in his lifetime have never said anything more injurious to his good name or more outrageous to the respect cherished for him by his true friends.

Some of the principles laid down in the Cincinnati platform were afterward reaffirmed by the Republican Convention at Philadelphia; but the most important of them were not. First of these was the assertion of the ancient and honored Demoeratic doctrine of local self-government, the independence of the States within their proper sphere, the preservation of the habeas corpus, and the observance of the constitutional limitations of Federal power. This was one of the great ideas represented by Horace Greeley in the canwhich is made by law for the relief of d.s. ceptralization and of the overthrow and Municipal Councils, and one-third by the new creature was killed by the Indiane. vass. Opposed to it was the principle of

absorption of all State powers and State rights into the hands of Congress and the President. Can any man who sincerely

believes in local self-government vote for the representative of the opposite idea ! Another doctrine of the Cincinnati platform is that "no President shall be a candidate for reflection." This was a favorite proposition with Mr. GREELEY. For years he has maintained and advocated it. Can any man who holds to this doctrine, as he did, seriously propose to give his suffrages

to reflect President GRANT?

The common sense of this whole question is simply that the electors chosen to vote for Horace Greener for President ought now to vote for the man nominated by both Conventions to take his place in case of his death after his inauguration. This man is B. GRATZ BROWN of Missouri. To find the right candidate for Vice-President in his place let them go to the records of the Convention by which GREE-LEY and BROWN were first nominated. They will find that on the second ballot in that Convention the candidate who received the greatest number of votes after Mr. Brown was the Hon. GEORGE W JULIAN of Indiana. The electors should accordingly vote for B. GRATZ BROWN for President, and for GEORGE W. JULIAN for Vice-President.

Robeson After More Millions.

The Secretary of the Navy is very anxious to build ten or twelve experimental ships, and to destroy those upon which tens of millions have been already expended, on the pretext that the repairs have cost as much as would be needed for a fresh outfit. This is an old job in a new form, and is backed by a well-drilled lobby, who have long feasted on the good things of that department. Our navy, like our commerce, has gone to the dogs. It is utterly demoralized by the favoritism, flunkeyism, and corruption which have signalized Mr. Robeson's administration. Twenty millions a year are literally squandered to keep up a sham which is the

laughing-stock of all maritime nations. We support expensive squadrons affoat for no other object than to air the newly acquired grandeur of a stock of Admirals, which increases rapidly every year without the least utility. Even when we had a commerce to protect, no such force as is now maintained was ever employed. The old system is entirely changed in this respect, and it is a glaring absurdity to say that ships of war are necessary to defend the rights of peaceful trade, which are regulated by treaty and protected by courts and consuls. Besides, the ocean telegraph now plays an important part in all disputed questions, so that governments separated by sea and distance may be said to confront and converse with each other in case of sudden and grave difficulty.

The great powers of Europe are obliged to keep up navies as a part of that military armament which is indispensable under the monarchical system as now constituted. No such reason exists in the United States; and ten millions a year might easily and at the least be saved by withdrawing the useless parade which is thus made. Take the case of Admiral ALDEN, now commanding the European squadron of seven or eight ships. He has been flitting about from court to court, obtruding himself at royal ceremonies and seeking notoriety, merely to satisfy a craving of personal vanity. One day at Berlin, auother at Vienna, then at Madrid and other places which have no ports, putting on diplomatic airs and ventilating bosh about the relations of the United States and Europe, with which he has no concern

No English, French, Russian, or other Admiral properly trained in the ways of his profession would dare to leave his command except upon urgent and special pendence of text books, a more thorough occasion, and with previous permission too, to thrust his presence where he did not belong. The plain truth is, our squadron in Europe is a mere yachting and pleasure-seeking expedition, and the ships are used to magnify the importance of the Admiral. That is all about it. For this business the people are taxed twenty millions per annum, at the smallest figure

The Christian Advocate, a Methodist organ of this city, laments that "nothing assuring" can be said of the religious character of the late Secretary SEWARD, whose death, moreover. it asserts, "was, so far as is ascertained, abso lutely destitute of faith or hope as to that great hereafter into which he was entering." It may comfort the Advocate to learn that at his decease Mr. SEWARD had been for nearly half a century a regular worshipper and communicant in the Protestant Episcopal Church : that during much of this time he had been a parish officer; that he had repeatedly acted as delegate to the general and diocesan conventions of his Church : and that he finally died, according to the test mony of those who attended his death-bed, full of "faith and hope in the great hereafter." Mr. SEWARD was not a "professor of religion" in the sense in which many persons understand that phrase. He was not an emotional or demonstrative Christian. We never heard of his addressing a missionary convention or taking part in a public prayer meeting; nor was he known to be active at the May anniversaries. But he has left oral and written evidence of the depth and sincerity of his religious convictions which the writer in the Christian Advocate might beter have consulted before attempting to cast a stigma on the fair fame of the departed states

The World wants the Scottish system of urles introduced into America. The Scotch are a very conservative and respectable people but their jury system has not prevented the country from being the scene of some of the most terrible crimes ever perpetrated, nor has i prevented very curious results to very interestmy criminal trials, such as the FLEMING trial in Glasgow, some ten or twelve years ago.

The Emperor of Germany is reported to have issued a decree creating twenty-five new Prussian peers. The persons thus ennobled have been taken from the ranks of the Government officials, generals of the army, and landholders. This creation of new peers is a measure adopted by the Emperor in consequence of the obstinacy of the Prussian House of Lords in refusing its assent to the new County Reform bill, which has passed the Lower House. The Berlin correspondent of the London Times says that the true proportion of Tories to Ministerial ists in the Upper House is about 145 to 60, and the small vote for the County bill at the last division in that House is accounted for on the supposition that numbers of Liberals stayed away on that occasion, knowing defeat to be certain. The total number of peers is 315, but nany of these seldom attend, and the working number does not often exceed 200. It would require, therefore, a creation of more than twenty-five new peers to give the Government a najority, unless changes have taken place in the attitude assumed by some of the nobility since the defeat of the bill in question. It is probable that such a change has taken place, under the apprehension of an entire reconstruction of the Upper House. It is understood tha Prince BISMARCK has recommended a plan by which the present House of Lords shall be abolished and its place supplied by a "Second Chamber," one-third of the members to be ap-

defeudalized Provincial Assembles. It is be-lieved that this plan, which would virtually ex-tinguish the hereditary principle in Prussian legislation, has the support of the Crown Prince, who is a pronounced Liberal in his political views, and the fear of such a change would be likely to have a decided effect upon the impending action of the Prussian nobles.

The deadlock in the North Carolina Legislature on the election of United States Senator continues, and there is a possibility that no onclusion will be reached before an adjournment. The practice in that State is to adjourn over the holidays and reassemble in January when the new State officers—in this case the old ones, who were reflected—are sworn in. A strong effort is in progress on the part of the friends of Josis Pool to keep the conservative strength divided between VANCE and MERRI-MON, in the hope that POOL himself may ring in by hook or by crook. The law of Congress o 1880, which regulates the election of United States Senators, provides that if no election is had upon a concurrent vote of the two branches of Assembly they shall meet in joint convention every day of the session, and take at least one ballot for Senator until a choice is effected or an adjournment is had. The North Carolina Legislature is engaged in this cheerful pursuit at present, and there is no telling how long it will last. VANCE started out ahead, with MER nimon holding a balance of power of some seventeen votes, and Poor receiving the whole Re publican vote. VANCE holds his own so far, about seventy-two; but the Republicans are voting for MERRIMON, sending the latter up among the thirties, and reducing Pool to fifty. eight.

A State Temperance Convention which tition the Legislature for the repeal of the Li-cense laws, the apparent objects being to convert one-fourth of the lowest class of dwelling houses in villages and cities into illicit rum shops, and to make a large proportion of the citizens of the State sneaking accessories to vio lation of law. At least, that is the way prohibition works in Puritan New England. It is not likely that it would work any better here.

After an eminently successful experience of thirty years, and with an accumulated capital of fifty-six millions of dollars, the old Mutual Life Insurance Company of New York has resolved to reduce its rates of life insurance twenty per cent. The reasons for this decision may be found in the correspondence published in another column. The expediency and propriety of such a reduction have long been canvassed by the managers and the public; and while slow to make innovations upon long-established usage, it is pleasant to note that the company and its customers are at length in substantla accord. Of course, when so substantial and conservative a corporation as the Mutual Life lecides upon so radical a change, the other companies must reduce their tariffs in the same proportion. The effect will be beneficial in a twofold sense. It will place the advantages of life insurance within the reach of the humblest, while it will enhance its security; for only those companies which can afford to safely take this step will follow the example of the Mutual, while the speculative and unsubstantial con-cerns which exist mainly that they may afford profitable employment to their officers will have to go to the wall for want of support.

The Turkish Government has determined that all instruction in the national schools shall be given in the national language, and this has caused an outcry among the professors who have been accustomed to teach the Turkish idea how to shoot in French. The Turks contend very properly that national schools are not foreign schools, and that the pupils receive inadequate instruction from the fact of its being conveyed in an alien tongue. The authorities have therefore resolved that books and teaching in all the schools, both higher and lower. shall be in the vernacular. Meantime the prescensorship is as rigid as ever, and the Levant Herald has been suspended another two months for commenting on the inadequate water supply

In an add ress before the State Teachers Institute at Suffield, Conn., Secretary NORTHROP compared the American system of education with those of Europe. He said that our com mon schools are much superior to the popular schools of Europe in architecture and arithmeteaching of history, of modern languages, and

of drawing. With due respect for Mr. Norra-nor's opinion, is seems to us that in a common school education there is nothing more necessary than a thorough knowledge of English, and it is wonderful how few teachers possess that. Other languages can very well be dispensed with if English is properly taught. It is strange to hear graduates of Brown and other universities quoting Latin and French, and evincing at the same time a very inferior knowledge of plain Anglo-Saxon.

But the American method of teaching history might well be improved. What could more appropriate in our schools than a simple, well-written history of the respective States? As the twig is bent the tree is inclined. and nothing would serve more to check the tendency toward centralization than the impressing upon the minds of children the glorious and important events in the history of their native Commonwealth. Every State has events in its annals which deserve to be kept alive in the school books and the memories of its people, but which may not be sufficiently important to be mentioned at length in a school history of the United States. No doubt many children are better acquainted with the history of England than with that of the State of New York.

It seems that Paraguay, which for the last five years has been under the military protection of Brazil, is in future to be under the joint pro tectorate of Brazil and the Argentines, and the probable destiny of the plucky little republic is nexation to the Argentine Confederation. In the terrible war with the allies Paraguay was too much prostrated to be able to resist any disposi tion of her which the victors may choose to make: and annexation to the Confederation may prove the best thing for a country too weak to protect itself. The South Americans evidently believe, with Mr. FROUDE, that no nation deserves liberty that it is unable to maintain.

In some of the English schools the system of fgging, by which the junior pupils are compelled to perform menial offices for their seniors, is still kept up, and the smaller boys are obliged to submit to all sorts of tyrannical imposition from the larger ones. But this is a trifling abuse compared with the brutality practised in school discipline. For instance, a correspondent of the London Telegraph says that in Winchester College the præfects-senior pupils to whom are delegated certain disciplinary powers-are permitted to flog the pupils coming under their authority to any extent and upon the most trifling provocation. Each præfect has a ground ash in his possession, and uses it and abuses it whenever he pleases. These floggings are no child's play, either. The coats of the victims are frequently cut into ribbons by the blows from the ash, which often draw the blood freely. Twenty blows are given at a time, and the pun ishment is sometimes even more severe, as the caprice or malevolence of the præfect suggests.

It is said that the officers of the signal ervice on Mount Washington are trying to teach a dog to carry the mail to and from that station. A correspondent of the Boston Adver-tiser suggests that this is an inappropriate season for sach instruction, there being four or five feet of snow on the ground, but that with a dog of good intellect, quick perceptions, and ordinary docility, success may be easily secured. In support of this opinion he says there is a tradition, coming through such worthy sources as to authorize belief, that previous to the year 1760 the mail between Portsmouth, N. H., and Wells, Me., for seven years was regularly carried by a dog. The mail was carefully made up, tied to the animal's neck, and carried safely through until at last, on one of his journeys, the faithful

AM USEM BNTS

"Mignon" at the Academy. If Maretzek had a tenor in his compan ne might last evening have given a very excellent representation of "Mignon." As it was, he gave as good a one as could have been anticipated in the absence of that very important ele

nent in an opera troupe.

It may be interesting to note the difference in he cast of the principal characters of the opera between last winter and this. The following will give the two distributions:

Mignon Miss Nilsson Madame Lucca Filena Mile Juwal Miss Kellogg. Jolario Sig Jamet Sig Jamet Johlelme M. Capoul. Sig Vizzani. Laerto. Sig. Lyall. Sig. Lyall. Both Madame Lucca and Miss Kellogg were excellently fitted with their parts, the music being such as peculiarly to exhibit their respective strong points. That which Mignon sings is for mezzo soprano and does not call out Madame Lucca's sharp and harsh high notes. That of Filena is full of passages for vocalization, and neither requires that dramatic power which Miss Kellogg could not supply, nor that intensity of expression the absence of which is so onspicuous an element in her singing. During the first two acts Miss Kellogg was listless and sang with that insouciance on which she seems to have taken her artistic stand. In the famous

polonaise Io son Titania she consented, how

ever, to throw aside a little of her well-bred

quiet, and the result was an almost faultless

piece of vocalization, attended with the most

liberal applause of the evening, for an audience

is always more quick to appreciate well sung

rapid passages and trills and roulades than the finest efforts of catabile singing. Madame Lucca, we believe, surprised even her admirers by the manner in which she rendered the rôle of Mignon. All her faults were noticeale in the performance, and so were all her points of excellence. She cannot sing a scale with finish; her trill is as bad as a schoolgiri's, and her phrasing seldom of the best. Her voice also has been so constantly forced to great etforts and to the cultivation of broad effects that she has lost in a great measure the power of singing with the half voice which was so delightful a trait in Miss Nilsson. But then on the other hand one cannot help feeling, when she is on the stage, the presence of a great artist, possessed of the highest dramatic instincts, having a strong, earnest conception of the character she undertakes, and representing it in glowing colors. There are artists who paint with fine,

delicate touches, and others who draw with a broad, strong hand, and put the colors on in masses, and both may be equality great, but Madame Lucca is like the latter.

Signor Jamet was, as he was last winter, the fine embodiment of the character of Lotario, and Signor Vazzani greatly increased our re spect for the departed Capoul.

MURDER AT A RAFFLE. Drunken Thanksgiving Eve in a Barroon in North Providence, R. I. ndence of The Sun.

PROVIDENCE, Nov. 30 .- The northern suburbs of our city was the scene of brutal murder on early Thanksgiving morning. These suburbs are noted for the lawless character of their inhabitants, and the inefficiency of the fine politicians whom the taxpayers of North Providence grudgingly support as policeman,

fine politicians whom the taxpayers of North Providence grungingly support as policeman, and though the streets of Providence, the excellent police jurisdiction of this city extends no further than the city line, and the consequence is that the inhabitants of this equally compact portion of North Providence adjoining are almost without protection. Martin street has the worst reputation of any thoroughfare in its neighborhood.

On Thanksgiving eve a party of nine or ten persons assembled in Ann Farrell's bar-room, on this street, to raffle for turkeys. Among them were Patk, Gorman, an employee of the highway department, James Gannon, and Barney Galligan. Eight of the nine men put down thirty cents each on the turkey, but Patrick Gorman, although he had been paid a month's wages the same evening (Wednesday), appears, according to the persons who were in the house, to have declined to put down anything. The raffling was begun, and the first turkey was won by Thomas Parrell. The winner treated all round, soid the turkey to the woman of the house, and they played for it again.

The raffling and drinking were continued in this way until past midnight. Gorman meantime had fallen asleep on the floor. He was aroused by James Gannon and Barney Galligan, and the three started from the barroom. On the sidewalk, in front of the place, they began quarrelling. Gannon handed a turkey to Galligan, knocked Gorman down, and struck and bruised him until life was extinct.

Gorman was carried to his home on North Davis street. He leaves a wife and child. Gannon han had eacessory to the murder.

Gould on Vanderbilt.

It has not heretofore been popularly supposed that the ex-President of Erie was poeti-cally inclined. Perhaps the following verses, which dropped from the wild "Exile of Erie's pocket book as he got into his coupé in Broad street yesterday may modify that opinion. They were written on a blank certificate of Erie issued to the Commodore some years since. It is supposed that there are more where these came from-verses, we mean, not "certificates." This "change from bad to verse " suggests a blow from the "Northwest corner." It was unkind of the Commodore to declare that he didn't like Jay's physiognomy. But meanwhile we are keeping our readers from

GOULD'S REPLY. The Commodore likes not my "face."
(And of face by the card he can speak.)
But I can declare with good grace
That I like the old gentleman's "cheek."

A Celestial Phenomenon in Kentucky. From the Lexington (Ky.) Press.

Last Thursday night there was a marked

A Celestial Phenomenon in Kentucky.

Byom the Lexington (Ky.) Press.

Last Thursday night there was a marked reduction in the temperature here, and the people who had been sweltering and sweating beneath the intense heat breathed freer and offered up an involuntary expression of thanks for the grateful relief. Day dawned on Friday bright and clear; not a cloud dimmed the sky, and, apparently, the cool spell promised to be but of brief duration. But, as the day wore on, the temperature did not increase, and, indeed, it was uncomfortably cool to many.

Shortly after the sun hid passed the meridian a dim, hazy halo gathered about the sun. This is a natural phenomenon of frequent occurrence, and attracted but little attention. Soon, however, the mist or halo increased in density and assumed a yellowish glare. The outer edge of the mist separated from the main body and formed a well-defined circle, in which the tints of the rainbow were visible. A second, and a third, and a fourth ring of variexated colors formed in quick succession. By this time the heavens were the centre of attraction. All eyes were turned upward, and all over the city crowds of people collected in the streets and strained their necks and eyes to get a good view of the wondrous scene. Close observers soon discovered a more wonderful phenomenon than the parti-colored circles. From the inner circles small suberes of a brilliant white color were being shot forth in countiess numbers. Some of them struggled slowly to the surface of the mist and then sailed slowly and gracefully to the earth in a direct line. Others were propelled in different directions with greater force and rapidity. As they sailed earthward the gilterfine globules grew less brilliant, and at the (apparently) height of half a mile they disappeared entirely from view.

This wondrous display of celestial pyrotechnics continued for several hours, and was witnessed by nearly every man, woman, and child in the city. The emotions excited by the magnificent spectacle, more grand than any

RALEIGH, Dec. 2 .- In joint session of the Le gislature to-day the Conservatives made no nomination for United States Senator, and about seventy difference were voted for. The Republicans voted for John Pool, who received 28; scattering, 107. The Conservative in John caucus this event of the momentum of the Scales received the largest number of votes yance and Merrimon were withdrawn by their friend from the contest.

The North Carolina Senatorship

BALTIMORE, Dec. 2 .- The trial of Jesse W. Up percue, a young man indicted for the murder of his aged aunt, Mrs. Amelia Wheat, in August last, commenced in the Criminal Court to-day. On being arraigned Up-percue pieaded not guilty, when a jury was impanelled and further proceedings postponed until to-morrow. Tunneling Out of the Penitentiary.

PITTSBURGH, Dec. 2.—Two persons, escaped from the Western Penitentiary in Alleghany City this norning, by tenneling under the ceil of the building and outer wall, to the street a distance of forty feet. The Canals Closed.

ROCHESTER, Dec. 2.- The decree of the Canal Commissioners has been anticipated in this vicinity by the weather. Navigation is closed, and it only remains to tug a few boats on the outskirts of the city to the

ORGANIZED AGAINST CORRUPTION. Jersey City's Taxpayers in Arms Against the

Greenville's war against the oppression of corrupt officials has a newly developed parallel n Jersey City. Both had their inception in unheeded complaints against exorbitant taxation, and when the tax bills for the coming year were resented to the property holders a howl of indignation went up against the Board of Public Works, forcing that body to make a show of works, forcing that body to make a show of reform. A meeting of citizens was catted, but instead of trying to reduce taxation they merely laid plans for future charter tinkering. The citizens honest in their demand for reform, and utterly disgusted with the evasions of their rulers, took the business into their own hands, and circulars were sent to the leading property holders of the city, as follows:

DEAR SER: You are respectfully invited to attend a meeting, to be held at St. John's Hall, in Gregory street, on Monday sweeting, bec. 8, 1872, at 150 o'clock. This is proposed to be a conference needing to cliticens, independent of the conference needing to the conference needing to the conference of cliticens, independent of the conference needing to the conference of the conference needing to the conference of the confe

therefore solicited to be present on the evening abovementioned. This circular presented at the door will insore your admission.

At 7:30 last night the hall was crowded by taxpayers representing several millions of dollars,
and shortly before 8 o'clock the meeting was organized with the Hon. Sidney B. Bevans as Chairman, and F. P. Budden, Esq., as Secretary. The
Hon. S. B. Rausoux, late candidate for Assembly in the Third District, a leading lawyer of
Jersey City-for the purpose of drawing out the
sentiment of the meeting—moved that the
present meeting organize as a County Association for municipal reform. He said that imperative measures were necessary for the protection
of the citizens. The city afairs were in a bad
condition. Until last fall he had been
a Republican, but was always opposed
to the present city government, as it
was conceived in sin, and brought forth
in inquity, and the charter governing its actions seemed especially arranged to admit of
funds being drawn from the City Treasury ad
libitum. In the last election, the party of reform
though defeated, aministered a rebuke to official
corruption, and if the citizens—not as Liberals
nor as Democrate, but as an honest amalzamations the party corrupted and corruptible will
soon be swept from power.

Speeches were delivered by Messrs. Bevans,
Flemming, and others, of the same general tenor
as that delivered by Mr. Ransom, and the chair
appointed Messrs. Fitzpatrick, James N. Davis,
F. G. Wolbert, James Flemming, and S. B. Bansom a commissee to draft a constitution for the
association.

Mr. Bevans introduced the subject of the ex-

som a commissee to draft a constitution for the association.

Mr. Bevans introduced the subject of the exemption from taxation of property within the city limits belonging to the Erie Railway Company, and in a short speech reflected sharply on the local members of the Legislature, who had made no efforts to have the law repealed.

The Hon. James S. Stevens, a member of the last Legislature from the Sixth District, said that a repealer of the Erie Exemption law was introduced into the House of Assembly last winter, but it was smothered in the committee. It was resolved that the name proposed for the association attend the session of the coming Legislature and demand a recognition of the rights of the people of the county. The meeting adjourned to meet again next week.

Pending the organization of the Legislature measures will be taken to restrict the expenditure of the public moneys, and the fight promises to be a hot one.

THE MUTUAL LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY OF NEW YORK. Reduction of Rates.

THE MUTUAL LIFE INSURANCE CO. OF NEW YORK, 144 and 146 Broadway. NEW YORK, Nov. 30, 1872.

To the Editor of The Sun.

Sin: From the facts set forth by the actuary in the following letter, which have been carefully considered by the trustees in commit-tee, and by the board collectively, they have decided that the rates of premium for assurance in this company shall be reduced in conformity with the recommendations of this letter as soon as the necessary preparations are made for the

purpose.

As many of the readers of your paper are inter-eated in the subject of life assurance, the letter will, if published, not only apprise them of the fact of reduction, but also explain the reasons which have led to the adoption of this import-ant measure. Respectfully yours, F. S. WINSTON, President. THE MUTUAL LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY OF NEW YORK, Nov. 12, 1872.

F. S. Winston, E.q., President, &c., &c. DEAR SIR: The Mutual Life Insurance Company has now been in operation well nigh the period alietted to a human generation, and the exhibit of its affairs, just published, demonstrates, in my opinion, its;ability, and urges upon it the duty, to revise its rates and widen the range of its usefulness by diminishing the price

The true mission of life assurance is to give to persons of slender means, and especially the laboring classes, the opportunity to provide a support for those whom sudden death may reduce to helpless dependence. The special objects of its care are indigent widows and or hans. The prices for their protection are often paid from hardly-earned and scanty means, and should be the lowest consistent with entire safety. I would respectfully ask your early and serious attention to the subject; and that you may have the matter fully before you. I submit herewith a new scale of reduced rates and certain suggestions with regard to the future practice of the company should they meet your approval and become the basis of our future business. The old net brices, based on 4 per cent. for money and the mortuary rates of the American table, are retained; and the alterations arise from a change in the percentage addition for ordinary expenses, which is reduced from 40 to 10. The yearly dividends under the new system will, of course, be greatly reduced, and I earnestly recommend—

1. That the reversionary credits for these dividends be given, as heretofore, but that no use be made of them till in every instance their present cash value, on the policy anniversary, shall amount to more than one annual premium, when the excess above one premium may be available to pay, at the expressed wish of the owner, the premium then due.

2. That these credits be held to be assessable to meet any deficit that may arise from any circumstances whatever.

3. That in case of death, the whole of the report for those whom sudden death may reduce

cumstances whatever.

3. That in case of death, the whole of the reversionary credit be paid to the heirs, as at

4. That existing policy holders may have the option either to leave their policies undisturbed and pay their old rates, receiving, of course, their proportional dividends and reversionary credits, or to take out new policies, with their existing credits added, and pay the new rates corresponding to their then present age, provided they subject themselves to a new medical examination, and are pronounced assurable.

The company will, by this most desirable plan, have within its control a large fund to which it may resort in time of trouble, should trouble come to it, while it will avoid the objectionable measure of keeping on hand a large undivided surplus, in which those who die cannot fail to have an interest, whose precise value it would be difficult to ascertain.

I would merely add that the company has pioneered its way to a condition of unrivalled prosperity and success. It has had large experience, and the community may properly expect it to use this experience to advance the interests of life assurance, so as to bring within the range of its business the poorer clazses. To compel these to advance money beyond the true price of assurance, only to be returned at the end of twelve months, is a hardship to which, I think, they ought not to be subjected.

Respectfully submitted.

WM. H. C. BARTLETT, Actuary. 4. That existing policy holders may have the

Highly Important from Cincinnati. CINCINNATI, Dec. 2.—The office of the Cincinnati Commercial was the scene of a rather significant and remarkable event this morning, being no other postmaster of Covington, to his old and tried friend, Florus B. Flimpton, Esq., associate editor of the Com-mercial. Mr. Grant hobbled in on his crutch, and after a cordial greeting from his friend was closeted with him for over an hour. The details of the interview are unknown, but it is understood that the difficulties of the Covington Post Office, between Jesse and Thad Easton, the special agent in charge, were cleverly and forcibly stated by Mr. Grant, with a view of having the case properly presented to the public.

The Glass Wedding of the Harlem Mutes. On Monday, Nov. 18, a glass wedding was cele-brated in the handsome residence of Mr. and Mrs. An-drew Weinberger, both mutes, at 233 East 123d street. A large number of mutes of both sexes attended. Mr. F. Campbell, a mute, made an appropriate speech, at the end of which he gave the couple a splendid French gitt clock, contributed by the mutes. Pleasant remarks were made by Mr. Wm. Genet, a venerable mute, brother of ex-senator Harry tienet, and Mr. John Wits-chief, the ex-President of the Empire State Association for Deaf Mutes. Mr. Weinberger thanked is sucets for their magnificent present, and they sat down to a bountful collation.

Josephine Mansfield a Beggar. A gentleman recently arrived from Paris says that the notorious Josephine Mansfield appeared in that city some weeks ago. She had about \$37,000 in money. This she deposited in the banking house of Bowles Bros. When the failure of that house was announced she wrung her hands in grief, and declared that she was ruined. It is not probable that she will recover a cent of her money.

Mr. Lesseur, now residing in France, is the owner of the property 718 and 720 Broadway, burned on Thursday morning. Peter Hynes of 278 seventh avenue, corner of Twenty-sixth street, is the lessee of the premises.

LIFE IN THE METROPOLIS.

DASHES HERE AND THERE BY THE SUN'S REPORTERS.

The Division Street Murder-Smith and Tully

Acquitted.

John Smith and James Tully, who were indicted for the killing of Augustus Brown on the 8th of June last at Division and Attorney streets, were tried n the Oyer and Terminer yesterday. Mrs. Brown, the wife of the deceased, testified that she and her husband were returning from the Bowery Theatre, and when near

were returning from the Bowery Theatre, and when near Attorney street in Division they passed a crowd on a stone, and that after they had passed some one rolled a stone after them. Her husband became excited, and she left him for a few moments. Then she says she returned, and saw Smith fell her husband to the ground. Hears Bauman testified that he saw the blow struck, but Mr and Mrs. Brown appeared as if drunk.

And MeFadeant estified that Brown was striking out when he was struck, and also that Smith after the quarrel said he struck him (meaning Brown) a pretty good crack to settle him at once.

There being no evidence against Tully except that he had helped to carry Brown home, the Court directed him to be acquitted. Smith's econset then put Tully on the stand as a witness. He dended that Smith was engaged in the quarrel. The testinony of other witnesses showed that Smith was not there at the time he is alleged to have struck Brown.

These prisoner defined that there were men in the court directed that the first of the say John Wilson did it and James Tully knew of it. They were men whom he never kept company with. He wouldn't swear that Wilson did it, but he had heard of what he said.

Both sides submitted the case without summing up under the charge of the Judge. The Jury without leaving their seats found Smith not guilty.

The Breaklyn Polsoning-Mr. Van Syckel Arraigned in the Over and Terminer. Yesterday morning John Van Syckel of 156 Hepry street, Brooklyn, was arraigned in the Court of Oyer and Terminer, and pleaded not guilty to the in-dictment charging him with having caused the death dictment charging him with having caused the death of his wife, Catharine Van Svekel, on Oct. 10 by administering arsenic to her in a cup of tea. His counsel, Col. Charles S. Spencer, asked that as early a day as possible be fixed for the trial, as the prisoner was ready and anxious. District Attorney Britton replied that pex tweek was the last week of the term, and the case of Dr. Irish and Mrs. Anderson was set down for trials then, and consequently it would hardly be possible for him to make an appointment to try the case at this term, but he would endeavor to fix as early a day as possible uext mouth.

Mr. Spencer replied that whatever arrangements of the court room with his citest.
Mr. Van Spekel is a middle-sped man of average, hught, with dark hair and whiskers, faintly tinged withs grify and weak features. He appeared perfectly self-possessed and under no special anxiety as to the result of the proceedings taken against him.

A Decision Against the Contestants in the

Judge McCunn Will Case. Surrogate Hutchings yesterday delivered a deosion in the Judge McCunn will case. The contesting actrs had demanded a recognition in the Surrogate's Court to oppose the will's probate, and had presented testimony to establish kinship. Counsel asked for a ruling upon the construction of the will. The motion was opposed by Mr. Eibridge T. Gerry, and his Honor

was opposed by Mr. Elbridge T. Gerry, and his Honos deferred rendering a decision untilane could read the law bearing upon the case. The decision which was a was against the contestants. He was segment to law involved, was signifer the contestants. Gerry also made exhaustive arguments for and against the decision. The Surrogate amounced that the will would be admitted to probate. Mr. Gerry asked that the executors might be confirmed, and that letters of administration be granted to them. Cogned for the contestants opposed Mr. Gerry's motion, and argument upon the point will be heard to-morrow.

The Corp Exchange Insurance Company to be Wound Up.

A friendly action has been brought, at the request of the Directors of the Corn Exchange Insurance Company, in the name of Win. C. Dewey, to wind up its

Company, in the name of win. C. Dewey, to wind up its sfairs. The complaint sets out that its capital stock is \$200,000, and its surplus over \$30,000; but that its leases by the logion fire were \$10,000 and upward, and its other liabilities, including uncarned premiums, are some \$30,000 more. That they have made a call on they stockholders to fill up the capital, but this has not been generally responded to, and so their capital will be impaired over fitty per cent.

On this comprish fir, william R. Foster was appointed receiver to wind up its affairs.

Three Men Killed in a Bracklyn Sewer. Yesterday afternoon a portion of the sewer in course of construction by York & Mulvey, in Tompkins evenue, near Quincey street, Brooklyn, caved in, in avenue, near Quincey street, Brooklyn, caved in, instantly killing John Rudzson, Frank Montivedi, and
John Savay. Rudzson was completely buried, and the
other two were buried up to their necks. Savay was
immediately killed, the dirt crushing him to death,
causing his eyes and tongue to protrude. Montived, in
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On the opening of the equity branch of the United States Circuit Court, yesterday, the Clerk called the ejectment suit sgainst Nelson Chase, the alleged heir to the vast estate left by the late Mme. Jumel. Judge Shipman presided. Charles O'Conor, Chaunce Shaffer, and a host of other legal lights were present; Washington Bowen, the aged claimant to the preperty, was also in attendance. Owing to the absence of exaction-y-teneral hoar, leading counsel for the plantiff, who is one of the Presidential electors from Massachusetts, the Judge ordered the trial postponed until Monday. The impanelment of the struck jury was also put over until then.

Arrest of a Prominent Banker. Yesterday afternoon, Deputy Sheriff Gale arrested Henry H. Boody, a banker doing business at 1 rested Heary H. Boody, a banker doing business at 12 Wall street, on an order granted by Judge Leonard of the Supreme Court. A civil suit was instituted against him by the Rockford, Rhode Island, and St. Louis Railroad Company, to recover moneys of which he alleged to have defrauded them. Ball was fixed at \$100,000, and up to a late hour Mr. Boody had not succeeded in obtaining it.

Scannell and King Indicted. The Grand Jury investigated the cases of John scannell and James C. King yesterday, examining ail the witnesses who appeared before the Coroner's jury-A bill of indictinent for inurder in the first degree was found against each, but has not yet been presented. They will probably be arraigned in a few days.

Henry Rogers to be Hanged. In the case of Henry Rogers, tried in Kings county, and sentenced to be hanged next Friday, Judge Fancher, following the decision of Judge Gübert, has denied a stay.

A Challenge to the Pigeon Shooters from Ira Paine. In the Editor of The Sun.

SIR : Seeing a challenge from Mr. Bogardus in to-day's Sun, I beg to make the following proposition I will shoot Mr. Bogardus a match at 100 birds, & yards rise, 1 oz. or 1); oz. shot, to flud, trap, and handie

for each other in person, for not less than \$2.500 a side for each other in person, for not less than \$2.50 a side. To shoot in New York, any time from four to six weeks after signing articles. A deposit left at the office of the Spirits of the Times will be covered immediately. If this does not such Mr. Bogardas, I will shoot any man in America, at 100 bries. For Mr. 101 Mr. 102 and 124 yards rise, according to the English rules, for \$2.50 a. 184. A. PALSA.

NEW YORK, Dec. 2, 1972. A Lunatic's Saicide. CONCORD, N. H., Dec. 2.-A young man named Horace B. Page, supposed to be from Laconia, shot himself through the head to-day in the reading room of the

self through the head to-day in the reading room of the Eagle Hotel, where he had asked permission to write some letters. One of the letters he had just written gave directions about the disposal of his body, asking that his brother at Laconia should be notified, and the other was as follows: other was as follows:

Concord, N. H., Dec. 2.

The time comes when I contemplated the deck, and my hand treamles not. Strangers, if you hold an inquest on my body don't render a verdiet of meanity-say rather that I wish to live no longer. I have been libtreated, and it is more than I can bear. I don't know

what to say more.

On the back was written:
Fred, I hope you received the letter I wrote sunday.
This is all I have to say.
Nothing is known of him here. An inquest is decired.

Rumored Arrest of a Bank President. NEWBURGH, Dec. 2.—It is rumored that elsenator Wm. M. Graham, President of the Wallkill Nadonal Bank of Middletown, was arrested to day at that place, and taken to New York on the do'clock Kria train in charge of a United States Marshal, on the charge of misappropriating the bank's funds. An ex-amination of the affirs of the bank show that its coll-dition is growing worse. A bank examiner is at works and thousands of dollars worth of dummies have been discovered.

London Stokers on Strike. LONDON, Dec. 2 .- All the stokers employed by four or five of the largest gas companies in the

have struck work, ostensibly because two of their number were unjustly discharged. The directors of the companies warn the public to use as little gas at possible until the trouble is ended.

ALBANY, Dec. 2.—The Senate met to-day to take up the case of Justice Curties, but there being us quorum present the Senate adjourned until 10 A. M. to-morrow. Henry Smith, ex-Judge Cochrane, Charles P. Crosby, and H. C. Dennison appeared as council to

Bumstead Pardoned. TRENTON, Dec. 2.—The Court of Parsions have granted a pardon to Bumstead of Jersey City, to take

effect one day before the expiration of the term of his sentence, which will be on the 21st of January next. The only effect of the action of the court will be to further than to citizenship.

We call attention to the opening of M. Favarger's course for beginners in French. It takes place this evening at the place mentioned in his advertises ment. He undertakes to teach novices to speak French

Mrs. Stenhouse's book upon Utah and the

Mormons is now in the press, and will be issued by the Messrs. Appleton in a few days. It is an elaborate and exhaustive work, and furnishes interesting information.